



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT
AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

AN 3726
G. Zimmerman
9-14-01
PATENT
28076/SV763A
#18/RESPONSE

Applicants: Baer et al.)
Serial No.: 09/286,794)
Filed: April 6, 1999)
Title: "Motor Shaft Assembly and)
Method")
Group Art Unit: 3726)
Examiner: Blount, S.)

I hereby certify that this paper (or fee) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on this date:

September 6, 2001


Mark C. Zimmerman
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Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The applicants have carefully considered the Office action dated June 6, 2001. Please consider the following remarks.

REMARKS

Claims 29-48 are pending and claims 39-48 have been withdrawn from consideration, leaving claims 29-38 at issue. Of the claims at issue, claim 29 is the only independent claim. Attachment A submitted herewith shows the claims at issue.

REJECTION OF THE CLAIMS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112

The Office action dated June 6, 2001, rejected claims 29-38 as failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter regarded as the invention. The applicants respectfully traverse this rejection and request reconsideration.

As an initial matter, the applicants note that the general claim limitation of first and second ends having first and second surface geometries that mate with one another was originally presented in claim 10 of Amendment A, which was filed on November 15, 2000.